

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending. Claims 1-5 have been amended to further define the features of the invention and to correct matters of form. No new matter is added by virtue of the within amendment; support therefore can be found throughout the specification and the original claims. For instance, support for the amendments to independent claims 1 and 2 can be found at page 3, line 2 to page 6, line 7.

As an initial matter, Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter, i.e., that claims 1-7 would be allowable if amended to address certain informalities.

Referring to the Office Action, claims 1-7 were objected to because of a number of alleged instances of non-standard English grammar. The Office Action directs particular attention to claims 1 and 2, line 6, and requires correction of the phrases "comprising by reacting..." and "conducting to a Curtius reaction...".

Applicants have addressed each of the noted informalities. For instance, independent claims 1 and 2 have been amended to recite "comprising reacting..." and "conducting a Curtius reaction...", thus removing these informalities. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. As the rejection is understood, the meaning of the 'proviso clause' requires clarification. In particular, the Office Action notes that it is unclear what is intended to be excluded from the definition of R^{2-5} .

Claim 1 has been amended to address this informality. As amended, claim 1 clearly recites the intended definitions for each of R^{2-5} . Such amendments are amply supported by the priority documents, JP 2002-262019 and JP 2003-186728 and any lack of clarity in the present application was introduced by virtue of the English

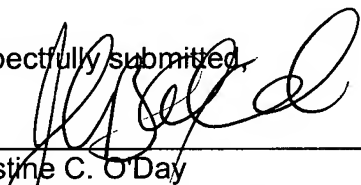
translation thereof. Submission of verified translations of the noted Japanese priority documents will be prepared and made available to the Examiner, if required. Further, support for the noted amendments can be found in the present application at page 3, line 2 to page 6, line 7. Thus, the rejection is properly withdrawn.

Claim 2 also stands rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. The basis for the rejection is that the claim language seeks to import certain definitions from an earlier claim, yet claim 2 is an independent claim.

Claim 2 has been amended to address this issue. As amended, claim 2 clearly recites definitions for each of the possible substituents. Thus, the rejection is properly withdrawn.

In view of the above amendments, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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